[Mr. S. Paramesvara Aiyar.]

Grant-in-aid Vaidyasalas.

25. MR. K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Tiruvalla*): (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a list of grant-in-aid *Vaidyasalas* in the State with the following information:—

(i) the grade of the *Vaidyasala*;

(ii) the special qualification of each *Vaidyan* in charge of the *Vaidyasala*;

(iii) the amount of grant sanctioned for each *Vaidyasala*;

(iv) the date of sanctioning the grant; and

(v) the number of times each *Vaidyasala* was visited by the Director during the last three years?

(*b*) Will the Government be pleased to state the principle underlying the recognition of a *Vaidyasala* as belonging to the 1st, 2nd, 3rd or 4th grade, and whether the place of location, the qualification and the experience of the *Vaidyan*, and the number of cases to be attended to daily have any consideration in determining the grade?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*) The statement* required by the member is laid on the table.

(*b*) The minimum grant for a *Vaidyasala* now is Rs. 15 per mensem. In making promotions to the higher grades, the qualifications and experience of the *Vaidyans*, the length of their service as grant-in-aid *Vaidyans*, the convenience of the buildings in which the *Vaidyasalas* are housed, the nature of their equipment, the nature and the quantities of the medicines stocked and the popularity and success of the *Vaidyans* are all taken into consideration. The answer to the latter part of the question is in the affirmative.

Tariff Rates for Timber.

26. MR. A. GOVINDA MENON (*Alengad cum Parur*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they would consider the advisability of a reduction in the tariff rates now fixed for royal and other timber, in view of the declared slump in the markets as regards such timber; and

(*b*) whether they are aware that the prices realised at the auction sales of royal and other timber are invariably lower than the tariff value of the same?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) Government have recently examined the question and come to the conclusion that, in view of the fluctuations in the market, the tariff rates call for no revision, except in the case of teak saplings. In regard to teak saplings a notification is being issued.

* *Vide* Appendix II—pages 152 and 153.

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(*b*) Government are aware that it is so generally. Logs, on arrival at the depôt, are first selected by the *Panivagai* and other Government departments and then by the general public, and all logs so selected are paid for at tariff rates. It is only the balance left over after these selections that is sold in public auction.

Sale of Salt at Munambam and Alleppey.

27. MR. A. GOVINDA MENON (*Alengad* cum *Parur*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they have made any enquiry into the malpractices regarding the sale of salt at Munambam and Alleppey, brought to the notice of this House at its last session; and

(*b*) whether, if such enquiry has been made, they will furnish this House with the result of such enquiry?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): The Excise Commissioner has enquired into the allegations and has submitted his reports. The reports are under examination by the Government.

Allegations against Certain Excise Officers.

28. MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Have the Government enquired into the allegations brought against the Excise Officers at Alleppey, Munambam and Alwaye, by Messrs. Mammen Mappillai and Khadir Pillai at the last session of the Council, and if so, what the results of the enquiry are?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): The member is referred to the answer to interpellation No. 27 [16].

Assistant Excise Commissioner, Mr. C. T. Oommen.

29. MR. M. R. MADHAVA VARIAR (*Chengannur* cum *Pattanamtitta*): Will the Government be pleased to inform the Council whether any action has been taken against the Assistant Excise Commissioner, Mr. C. T. Oommen, in view of Mr. Khadir Pillai's statements about him at the last meeting of the Council?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): The member is referred to the answer to interpellation No. 27 [16].

Excise Officers Trained in Distillery Work.

30. MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Will the Government be pleased to mention:

(*a*) the names of the Assistant Excise Commissioners and the Inspectors who have been trained in distillery matters at the expense of the Government;

(*b*) the institutions, ranges and divisions where such officers are posted now; and

(*c*) the names of the officers who have now been placed in charge of the distilleries and their special qualifications.

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